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Schiffli Fabric: Usage and Styling Explained!

What is the Schiffli Embroidery and How is it Done?

- Schiffli embroidery is done based on the principle of the sewing machine and the schiffli embroidery machine was invented after 1873.
- Schiffli is a type of lace that is embroidered using the schiffli machine and is derived from the German word which means ‘little boat’.
- The schiffli embroidery is done using a multi-needle loom that uses around a thousand needles. The fabric is held against the loom and needle in a way that it can easily be moved back and forth.
- The fabric on which the embroidery is done is immersed in a chemical bath in which the un-embroidered patches dissolved and the only thing left is the lace.

Different Variations of the Schiffli Embroidery

- Embroidery with Borer Holes also called Eyelets are small perforations that can be made in many shapes with a cloth or metallic threads. Schiffli Embroidery on Net can be done on net-like base fabrics.
- Another common variety is the Guipures Embroidery which is done based on the chemical properties of the fabric. A water-soluble material is used to create this embroidery and the focus is not on the physical appearance but on the fabric properties.
- Applique Embroidery used a second layer of fabric in addition to the base fabric. The upper layer is rolled up and secured while the base layer is being embroidered.
- Lastly, there are embroideries done with metallic threads and colorful threads too. Overall schiffli embroidery on the fabric is also a very popular variation.

Schiffli Fabric: Usage and Styling

- The embroidery is often used in salwar kameez and the schiffli fabric with embroidery on the borders is an all-time favorite for making palazzo pants and long flared skirts.
- In home décor, schiffli fabric is used for making cute cushion covers and pillow covers. The schiffli lace is exported from Gujarat and is widely used for clothing purposes.
- The schiffli embroidery adds to the cotton fabric and can be used for making adorable dresses for girls and women alike.
- Schiffli embroidered shirts and kaftans are super breezy and great for surviving the heat. In Indian wear, you can make kurta sets and blouses out of this fabric.

Thank You!

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